[26th February 1929

Supply of quinine to hospitals in Kurnool district.

* 1502 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of malarial attacks talukwar in the district of Kurnool between the 1st of June 1928 and the 30th of November 1928;

(b) the quantity of quinine supplied to hospitals and dispensaries in those areas; and

(c) the quantity of quinine supplied for free distribution?

A.—(a) Information is not available.

(b) A statement [a] showing the information is laid on the table.

(c) Seventy pounds up to the 4th January 1929.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know from the hon. the Minister, arising out of the figures supplied here which indicate that the supply up to 4th January was 70 pounds in one taluk where free supply was worked while it was about 85 pounds only in all the other taluks whether he is prepared to make an immediate enquiry into the state of health in the district of Kurnool with reference to malaria and whether he is prepared to extend free supply to greater area?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"The areas in which free quinine was distributed was already fixed upon, and further extension of the area will be made when the results of these experiments which have been made are known."

Distribution of quinine in the Wynaad taluk.

* 1503 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased—

(i) to place before the Council a statement showing—

(a) the several agencies by which quinine has been sought to be distributed free;

(b) the quantity sent to each; and

(c) when it was sent; and

(ii) to state—

(a) whether any agency in the Wynaad taluk in the Malabar district was sent any quinine for free distribution and if not, why not;

(b) whether it is a fact that Wynaad taluk is one of the most malarial areas in the presidency; and

(c) whether it is contemplated to extend the benefits of the concession to that and other taluks in the presidency and if so, which and when?

A.—(i) (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 1059, P.H., dated 14th May 1928, referred to in the answer to clauses (c) and (d) of question No. 423. On 31st January 1929 the Government permitted tahsildars and deputy tahsildars to entrust to trustworthy village officials in the areas within their jurisdiction the work of distribution in such villages as they considered necessary.

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 175 infra.

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On 13th February 1929 the Government authorized the Director of Public Health to utilize the services of Presidents of Village Panchayats and schoolmasters for the work of distribution.

(b) & (c) A statement [a] showing the information as far as is available is laid on the table.

(ii) (a) No; as the taluk has not been included in the scheme of free distribution.

(b) Yes.

(c) There is no such proposal under contemplation. The question whether the free distribution should be extended to other areas will be re-examined in connexion with the budget for 1930-31.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to clause (c) of my question, the answer is 'the question whether the free distribution should be extended to other areas will be re-examined in connexion with the budget for 1930-31. May I enquire whether this figure is correct or is it a mistake for 1929-30?

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The figure is correct."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The budget for 1929-30 is already in our hands. So the question does not arise."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know why in the distribution of this free quinine, special treatment or favouritism seems to have been shown only to missionaries as appears from the list?" to

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably these gentlemen come forward saying that they will go about and distribute. If other gentlemen come forward their request will also be considered." 11-30 a.m.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" What surplus provision has been made for 1929-30?

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is a matter which is available for the hon. Member. The budget for 1929-30 is in his hands."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" It does not disclose details."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, if the policy of the Government regarding quinine distribution has undergone a change?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am not able to see where the hon. Member got his information from."

Steps for the treatment of tuberculosis.

*1504 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state what steps have been taken in the year 1928 and are proposed to be taken in 1929 for the treatment of tuberculosis either by the establishment of a Government institute or by aiding private institutions?

A.—The Government already maintain a Tuberculosis institute and a Tuberculosis hospital at Madras. It has been decided to construct on the Spur Tank a comprehensive building for a Tuberculosis hospital at an estimated cost of Rs. 6·96 lakhs and the work is about to be started.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 176-177 infra.